



PATENT 450101-02921

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Tetsujiro KONDO et al.

Serial No.:

09/830,858

Filed:

May 1, 2001

For:

SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS

AND RECORDING MEDIUM

Examiner:

AGGARWAL, Yogesh K.

Art Unit:

2622

Confirmation No.:

3568

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on November 1, 2006.

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Signature

November 1, 2006

Date of Signature

<u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</u>
<u>UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c)</u>
AND CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicants are filing this Information Disclosure Statement and the accompanying form PTO-1449 along with copies

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of the prior art therein identified. Such prior art has come to the attention of applicants by being cited in a Search Report issued in the corresponding European application on October 11, 2006, and a copy of which is enclosed. So far as applicants are aware, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

As is apparent in said Search Report, applicants' undersigned attorney hereby certifies pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) that each item of information contained in this Information

Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not an admission that the documents identified herein constitute prior art to the present application.

Please charge any fees incurred by the filing of this document or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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Based on Form PTO-1449 (3/90)

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)

| ATTY. DOCKET NO.                    | SERIAL NO. |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| 450101-02921                        | 09/830,858 |
| APPLICANT<br>Tetsujiro KONDO et al. |            |
| FILING DATE                         | GROUP      |
| May 1, 2001                         | 2622       |

|                     |                |   | U.S          | . PATENT DOCUMENTS                   |                 | I        |                               |  |  |
|---------------------|----------------|---|--------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |                | DOCUMENT NUMBER   | DATE         | NAME                                 | CLASS           | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF<br>APPROPRIATE |  |  |
|                     | AA             |   |              |                                      |                 |          |                               |  |  |
|                     | AB             |   |              |                                      |                 |          |                               |  |  |
|                     | AC             |   |              |                                      |                 |          |                               |  |  |
|                     |                |   | FORE         | IGN PATENT DOCUMENTS                 |                 |          |                               |  |  |
| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |                | DOCUMENT NUMBER   | DATE         | COUNTRY                              | CLASS           | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO         |  |  |
|                     | AD WO 92 05662 | 04/02/92  | PCT          |                                      |                 |          |                               |  |  |
| •                   | AE             | 98 303 415.8  | 07/19/06     | Europe                               |                 |          | Abstract                      |  |  |
| 1                   | AF             |   |              |                                      |                 |          |                               |  |  |
| L                   |                | OTHER P   | RIOR ART (In | cluding Author, Title, Date, Pertine | nt Pages, Etc.) |          |                               |  |  |
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| EXAMINER            |                | 1   |              | DATE CONSIDER                        | ED              |          |                               |  |  |

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.